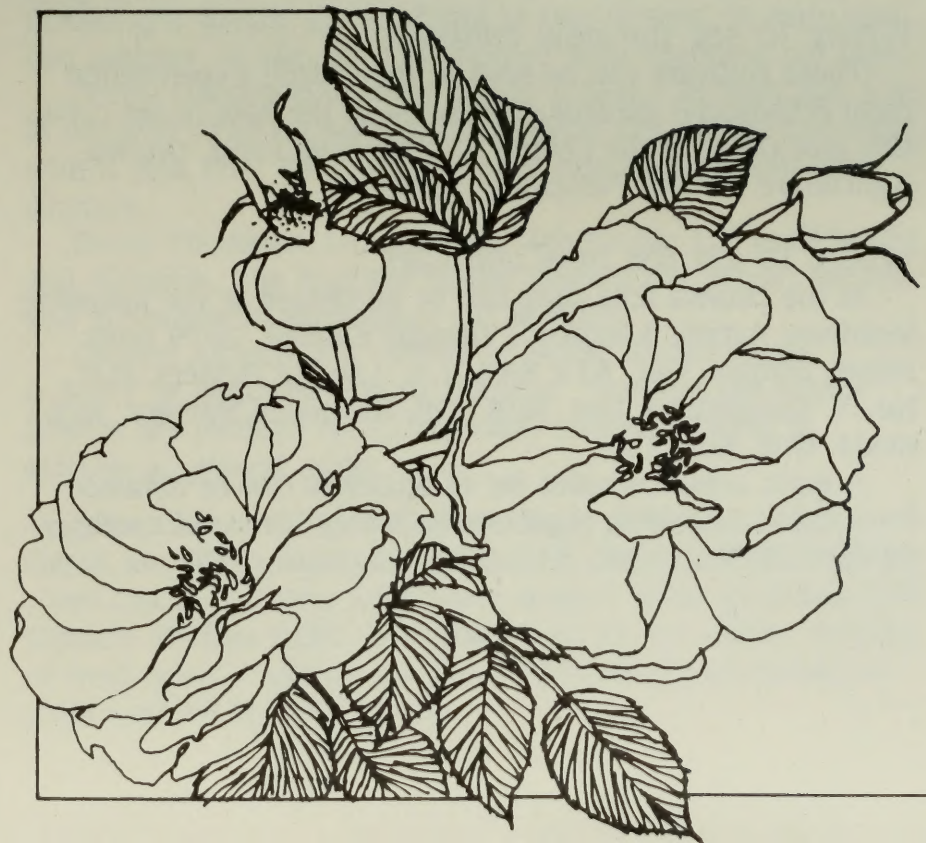


Agriculture
Canada

Publication 5224/E

New winter-hardy roses, weigelas, forsythias, and mock oranges

Home gardeners and park directors across Canada are now able to grow roses without winter protection.

The Plant Research Centre (previously known as the Ottawa Research Station) has registered 12 new winter-hardy roses named in honor of Canadian explorers. The Canadian explorer roses flower abundantly and repeatedly, have attractive flowers, shrubs, and foliage, and good field resistance to mildew and blackspot.

Martin Frobisher, **Jens Munk**, **Henry Hudson**, **David Thompson**, and **Charles Albanel** are hybrids of *Rosa rugosa* Thunb. These roses do not require pruning in spring, flower freely and repeatedly, are highly resistant to mildew, and are immune to several races of the blackspot fungus. They differ in height and flower color, among other features. They can be grown singly or as an informal hedge.

Martin Frobisher, the first rose named from this breeding program, reaches 1.5–2 m in height and 1.5 m in diameter. The shrub is upright, symmetrical, and the upper branches are spineless. The fragrant, soft pink double flowers (40 petals) are produced throughout the summer until the frost. This rose looks best as an informal hedge.

Jens Munk is a vigorous shrub, 1.5–2 m high and heavily armed with prickles and bristles. The fragrant, medium pink flowers (25 petals) are produced in two flushes, in early and late summer. In the fall it is adorned with sparkling red hips.

Henry Hudson is a dwarf shrub, 0.5–0.7 m high and 1 m in diameter. The fragrant double flowers (25 petals) are white with a pink hue. They are produced freely throughout the summer.

David Thompson is a medium-high shrub, 1.2 m in height and diameter. The fragrant double flowers (25 petals) are red and are produced throughout the summer.

Charles Albanel is a spreading, dense, dwarf shrub 0.3–0.7 m high and 1 m in diameter. The fragrant double flowers are medium red (20 petals). Charles Albanel is suitable as ground cover.

John Cabot, **William Baffin**, **Henry Kelsey**, and **John Davis** are pillar roses, derived from *R. kordesii* Wulff. These roses can be left on a trellis over winter. When grown in Ottawa, William Baffin and John Davis do not require pruning of dead wood in spring but John Cabot and Henry Kelsey require pruning in certain years.

John Cabot earned the silver medal of the Royal National Rose Society in 1985. Its vigorous, arching branches reach 2.5–3 m and are covered in early summer with red double flowers (40 petals). In late summer and fall, John Cabot flowers sporadically.

William Baffin has vigorous branches, 2.5–3 m long, red double flowers (20 petals), borne in clusters of up to 30. William Baffin flowers freely and repeatedly and is highly resistant to blackspot and mildew.

Henry Kelsey has a trailing growth habit, and the branches reach 2–2.5 m. The double flowers are bright red, fragrant (30 petals), and are produced freely and repeatedly.

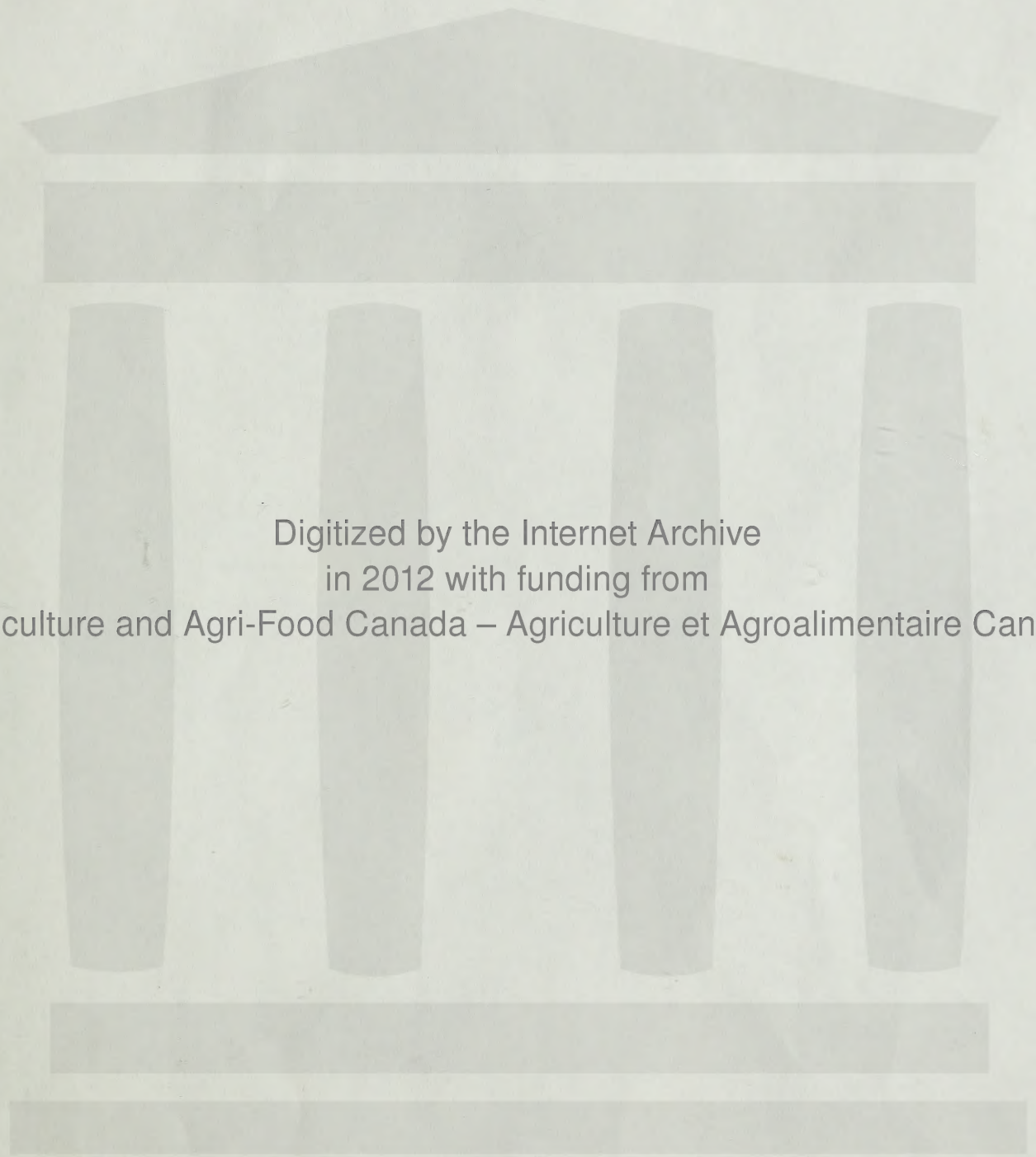
John Davis has a trailing growth habit, and the branches reach 2–2.5 m. The double flowers are fragrant and pink (40 petals). John Davis flowers freely and repeatedly and is highly resistant to blackspot and mildew.

Champlain, **John Franklin**, and **A. Mackenzie** are complex hybrids and have been classified as shrub roses for want of a better class. These roses have better flowers than the rugosa and kordesii hybrids, but they are less hardy and require pruning each spring. They survive the winters in Ottawa without coverage, where only the hardiest roses of the hybrid tea, floribunda, and grandiflora classes survive with coverage.

Champlain has the outstanding flowering habit of a floribunda, but it is not related to this class. It reaches a height and diameter of 1 m. The double flowers are slightly fragrant and dark red (30 petals). Champlain is grown in Ottawa as a bedding rose.

John Franklin shrubs reach a height and diameter of 1.2 m. The double flowers are fragrant and red (25 petals) and are borne in compound clusters of up to 30. John Franklin flowers prolifically throughout the summer till fall.

A. Mackenzie is hardier and more blackspot resistant than Champlain and John Franklin. It is a vigorous shrub, 1.5–2 m high and 1.2–1.5 m in diameter. The double flowers are cup-shaped, fragrant, red (40–50 petals), and are produced prolifically throughout the summer.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2012 with funding from
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada – Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada

http://www.archive.org/details/newwinterhardyro00cana

In addition to the roses, the Plant Research Centre registered four weigela, two forsythia, and three mock orange cultivars.

Weigelas

Minuet, **Rumba**, **Samba**, and **Tango** are cultivars of *Weigela florida* (Bunge) DC. They were selected for high levels of winter survival and flower production, low stature, and unusual foliage color. As with other weigelas, they do not suffer from diseases. When grown in Ottawa, they require no pruning.

Minuet is a dwarf shrub, 0.5–0.7 m high, with two-tone red and pink flowers.

Rumba is a vigorous, semidwarf shrub, 1 m high and 1.2 m in diameter, with dark red flowers. Rumba is suitable as ground cover.

Samba is a symmetrical, semidwarf shrub, 0.8–1 m high, with red flowers and abundant gray purple foliage.

Tango is the only other weigela with purple foliage besides Purpurea but the shrub of Tango is bushy and symmetrical, whereas that of Purpurea is stiff and upright. Tango has red flowers and reaches a height of 0.6 m and a

Where to see the new cultivars

These cultivars can be seen at the Central Experimental Farm ornamental gardens, northwest of the new hedge collection (see *Guide of the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa*, Agriculture Canada Publication 5052).

Where to get the new cultivars

In the Ottawa area they can be purchased at the following locations: Artistic Landscape Designs Limited, 2079 Bank Street, Ottawa, Ont. K1V 8A8; J.A. Laporte Flowers, R.R. No. 1, Cumberland, Ont. K0A 1S0; Richmond Nursery, Richmond, Ont. K0A 2Z0.

A more comprehensive list of nurseries can be obtained from Public Enquiries, Agriculture Canada, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0C6, Telephone (613) 995-5222.

Forsythias

Northern Gold and **Happy Centennial** are hybrids of *Forsythia ovata* Nakai 'Ottawa' and *F. europaea* Deg. & Bald., which are notable for improved flower-bud hardiness.

Northern Gold is a shrub, 2 m high and 1.5 m in diameter. In Ottawa, it produces an abundance of golden yellow flowers in early spring, reaching up to the top of the branches. Most other forsythias flower only when they are protected by snow cover.

Happy Centennial is a dense, spreading, dwarf shrub, 0.6–0.8 m high and 1–1.5 m in diameter, with abundant small leaves. It is attractive both as a flowering shrub in early spring and as a foliage plant in summer and fall.

Mock oranges

The mock oranges (*Philadelphus* spp.) are complex hybrids. They flower abundantly for 3–5 weeks in June and July but they need slight pruning when grown in Ottawa. The double flowers are fragrant, pure white, and are borne in compact inflorescences.

Snowbelle is a medium-high shrub, 1–1.5 m high, with cup-shaped flowers 6 cm in diameter, and 8–15 petals.

Buckley's Quill is a shrub, 1.5–2 m high. The flowers are 3.5 cm in diameter and the quill-like petals (30) give it an unusual appearance, not typical of a mock orange.

Snowdwarf is the only other dwarf mock orange besides Manteau d'Hermine, but Snowdwarf has a longer flowering season and is more productive. The shrub is 0.5–0.8 m high and 0.4–0.5 m in diameter. The flowers are cup-shaped, with 20 petals but no stamens.

PUBLICATION 5224/E, available from Communications Branch, Agriculture Canada, Ottawa K1A 0C7

©Minister of Supply and Services Canada 1986
Cat. No. A53-5224/1986E ISBN: 0-662-14996-3
Printed 1986 25M-10:86

Également disponible en français sous le titre
Nouveaux cultivars de rosiers, diervillées, forsythies et seringats, résistants au froid.

Canada